

NEWSLETTER



Aztec Calendar
AZUSA HIGH SCHOOL AZTECS
Kiowa Class of 1961

November/December 2008

General Information

Welcome to issue #11 of our newsletter. Again, thanks to everyone who provided alumni information and updates so that we would have something to write about. Keep those stories and information coming so we can continue to send out the newsletter on a timely basis. Be sure to email photos too..

If you have anything you'd like to include in the next newsletter, please email the info to me at rainymail@yahoo.com or mail to Cheryl Dillard, PO Box 2413, Lake Oswego, OR 97035. You may also phone me at 503-781-2658 or fax the info to 503-214-6316. You can view newsletters, bios, event information and photos at <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com>

If you have changed your address, phone number or email address, PLEASE let us know so we can update our list. Janice Quick Ashborn is the "point man" where all your contact information should be sent. Her email is okayjan@cox.net and her mailing address is 8670 Robles Dr., San Diego, CA 92119.

Kiowa Spotlight

Rachel Pille Taylor is featured this month.

Happenings

John Baumann and his wife, Nancy, hosted a Class of 1961 Indian Summer potluck dinner party on November 15 at their home in Dana Point and everyone had a great time. To view more photos click on the following link: http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/photos_and_video.html



Walt Ashborn, Carol & Burt Franks and Carol Justice Roberts & Tom Roberts



Jean Moberg Evingham & her guest, Lionel



Elaine Fitzgerald Fafilek, John Baumann & Corky Warfield Justice

From Azusa High

The Aztec Drum



Azusa High School's famous drum, once billed as the world's largest, has fallen into disrepair. The drum was a gift from the class of 1963 and made appearances at football games, rallies, and other school functions. Glen Gilmore was the Aztec Warrior in 1963 and is shown in the school yearbook. As with anything that is 45 years old, time has taken a toll on the famous instrument and repair and some reconstruction becomes necessary.

In early 2008, the Azusa Alumni Committee contributed some money to help buy a new skin for the drum. As many may remember, the Aztec Warrior head was on the drum in full display and really highlighted the school.

Although the drum may be repaired and a new skin soon attached, the school still needs to have the Warrior head (or another design being considered) painted on both sides of the drum. With the recent reunion in October, the tremendous support from the classes from 1958, 1959, 1960 through 1969 and some beyond those years resulted in some excess funds available for circumstances such as this. Overwhelmingly, committee members supported the idea to again contribute to have the drum painted at a cost of approximately \$600.00. Read the newspaper article at: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Reunion/alumnidonation-newspaper.pdf>

Thanks to all Alumni who made this possible. GO AZTECS!

Submitted by Dave Lepore, Class of 1963

To view photos of the October All Class Reunion, click on the following link: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/azusahighreunion2008/sets/> **New photos are uploaded frequently, so check often.**

For info on Azusa High School events and activities visit: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/events.html>

Illnesses, etc...

In December **Richard (Jimmy) Rozance** underwent open heart surgery. Complications developed and he is still in intensive care. Keep sending prayers his way because he can really use them right now. I believe that **Walt Grzymiski** speaks for us all in his heartfelt message to Jimmy's sister, Evelyn (Tootsie).

"When one Aztec classmate succeeds, we all share a bit of the success; and when one stumbles or falls, we all lean to catch and share in the mishap. We all spent four years in the same place, and 47 years later, no matter where our lives have taken us individually, a piece of us is also injured. We all wish the best to Jimmy and his family." Walt Grzymiski

Our deepest sympathy to **Pam Akin** Dalton, whose husband, Jim Dalton, passed away on December 18 after fighting cancer on and off for years.

Neal Sparks, is still battling lung cancer and is pretty weak from his chemo and radiation treatments. The good news is that the spots on his lungs appear to be shrinking, according to his last PET scan. He and his wife, Joan, are currently living with their daughter in South Pasadena so they can be closer to Cedars-Sinai Hospital where Neal is undergoing his medical treatments. **Richard Rubio** and his wife, Joy, brought Neal homemade tamales and John Hanson, class of '60, baked Neal a boysenberry pie from berries that he grew himself. Neal would love to hear from you via email, snail mail, phone or a personal visit. You may contact him at mrsrrsparks@aol.com or (214) 668-4934. His mailing address is 3912 Harriman, Los Angeles, CA 90032. To read Neal's bio click on the following link: http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Bios/Neal_Sparks_bio.pdf

If someone knows of an alumnus who is very ill, please let me know.

Changes

If you change your address, phone number, email or even your name, please contact Janice Ashborn at okayjan@cox.net. She will let me know and I shall put the changes here.

News Updates

Don Funk played Santa Claus for families of Marines at a party his company throws every year at Lido Peninsula.

Sandy Evans Smith and her daughter, Shelley, enjoyed their first “white” Christmas in Sequim, Washington and “loved every minute of it.” Read more at the following link:

http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/Sandy_Evans_Smith-Sequim_Snow.pdf

Don Foltz and his wife, Mary, welcomed the holidays by putting up Christmas lights and luminarias, as they do each year.

Joan Zoda Cresci sent Christmas Greetings from London, England where she spent the holidays with friends. Click on the following link to read her story: http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/Joni_Zoda_London.pdf



Don “Santa Claus” Funk at Lido Peninsula, CA



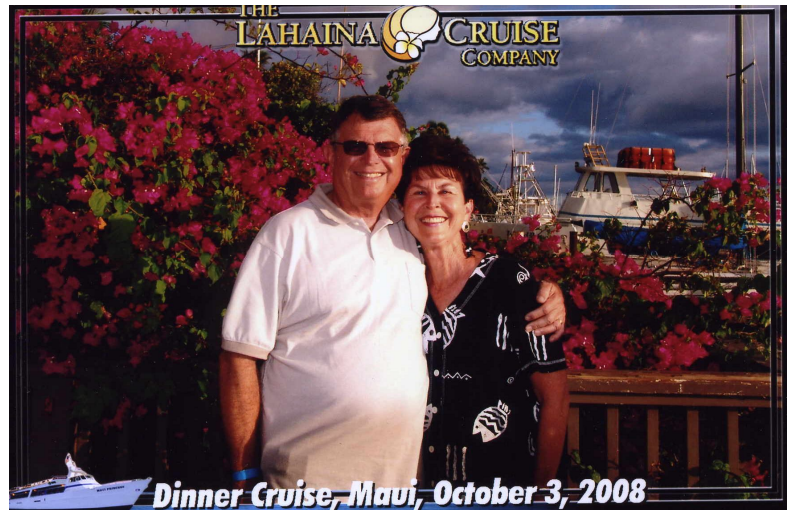
Sandra Evans Smith’s white Christmas in Sequim, WA

On Christmas Day **Rachel Pille** Taylor accepted a marriage proposal from her partner of five years, Terry Roth. They have set a tentative wedding date for February 14, 2009. Congratulations Rachel!

Pam Schwab Huffstutter retired October 4 after working as a school district transportation secretary 13 years in Bakersfield, California and 15 years in Anaheim. To celebrate the occasion, she and her husband, Bill (Azusa High graduate 1959) went to Maui for a wonderful vacation where they snorkeled, attended a luau, and enjoyed a sunset dinner cruise. Pam plans to remain active in square dancing and to travel as much as possible. She also has two grandkids to spoil.



Terry Roth & Rachel Pille Taylor



*Dinner Cruise, Maui, October 3, 2008
Bill Huffstutter & Pam Schwab Huffstutter*

For his June 24 birthday **John Baumann’s** wife, Nancy, treated him to a four-hour excursion train ride through Vermont. In September Nancy surprised John again with a 1939 Lionel, Flying Yankee model train she purchased for their collection.

Kay Winburn Seale attended a Meals on Wheels fundraiser in December and won \$1,500 in the raffle, plus two decorated Christmas trees (where the cash was hidden). And if that isn’t enough... On January 13 Kay and her husband, Richard, leave for a South American Buenos Aires/Santiago Chili cruise. Ports of call are Montevideo, Uruguay, Falkland Islands (Stanley), Antarctica Peninsula, Cape Horn, Ushuaia (Tierra del Fuego), Argentina, Punta Arena, Chili. It will be summer down there so they can leave their parkas at home.

Janice Quick Ashborn retired on January 12 from the Cajon Valley School District after working as a state funded preschool teacher for 15 years.

In December **Edith Todd** Marchand received a surprise visit from Bob Crandall, a 1956 Citrus High graduate.

This spring **Mike Rawlings** and his wife, Pat, are taking an RV trip to the Kentucky Derby. Also, they are planning to meet up with **Tom Roberts** and **Carol Justice** Roberts this summer for an all-day rafting trip down the Snake River.

Don Foltz hooked up with an old friend, Keith Perkins as a result of a Google search. The search engine pointed Keith to Don's bio in our class newsletter and he emailed me to get contact info for Don. Keith and Don were in electronics school in '63 and '64 in Memphis. That was the last time they had seen each other even though their "paths have been very, very close through the years."

In December yours truly (**Cheryl Burlingame** Dillard) spent a relaxing week at the Sheraton Desert Oasis in Scottsdale, Arizona—a gift from a client who had to cancel vacation plans at the last minute. **Rachel Pille** Taylor and her fiancé, Terry Roth, visited me while I was there and we had a lot of fun touring an Arabian horse ranch, eating great Mexican food and playing the popular board game, Mexican Train. When I returned to Portland, Oregon I was snowed in for seven days without a car, winter parka, snow boots, skis or computer, and so I spent a lot of time sitting in front of the fireplace reading mystery novels, sipping hot chocolate, doing crossword puzzles and watching "House" reruns on TV. A bit of trivia-- I just found out that my sons and granddaughters are related to Frank Smithhart, class of 1960 and also to **Dick Bessire**'s wife, Stephanie. Frank Smithhart and my former husband are 1st cousins..



Keith Perkins & Don Foltz 1963



Scottsdale, Arizona – Dec. 19, 2008



Portland, Oregon – Dec. 20, 2008

In Memoriam

You, dear readers, have to be the ones to let me know about anyone who passes. At the present time we are aware of the following alumni who are no longer with us:

Loree Hodge
Theresa Asbury Bence
Gary Pollard
Keith Hunt
Mary Arbuckle
Billy Estrada
Henry Pedroza
Mike Walters
Laurie Wittich Taft
Christine Kekos

Gary Bielke
Kenneth MacDermott
Kenneth White
Kenn Crafton
DonRay Logan
Joe Contreras
Ronald Dunkle
Mary Ann Connor
Oren Putnam

Ken Navarro
Ray Nakama
Geraldine Diaz Kinsey
Harry Kimura
Les Frieberg
Joseph Mora Jr.
Regina Johnson Nash
Darwyn Freed
Dennis Prober

Many of you have taken fun vacations that our alumni would enjoy reading about. If you would like your travel story and photos to be included in our next newsletter, please email them to me at rainymail@yahoo.com ASAP.

Thanks and I look forward to hearing from you.

Cheryl Dillard (Burlingame)

Spotlight on Rachel Pille Taylor

Life after Azusa High School

After High School I attended Citrus Junior College for two years, then went to San Jose State College, from 1963-1965. I finished my education 10 years and three children later at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque; I married in January 1965 and divorced 12 years ago.

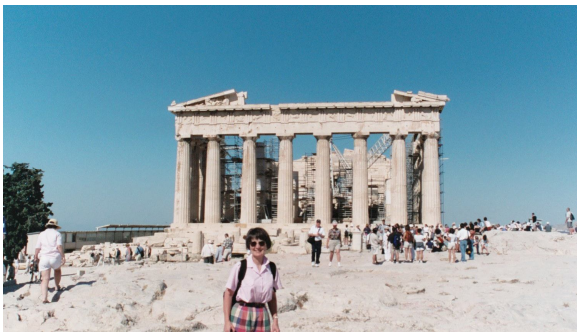
I have lived many different places, from Texas, to New Hampshire, to Pennsylvania, back to California, and then on to New Mexico where I have been living for the past 35 years, with a short sojourn of eight months in Colorado. In 2003 I met my fiancé, Terry Roth, who will become my husband on February 14th!



Rachel and her guard dog, Daisy

Work, Play and Family

In the summer following my freshman year of college I took a job as a secretary and found my niche. I have a servant's heart, so the field suited me perfectly. I worked in that field until I retired at the age of 58, and NO I don't miss working one bit! I have never had trouble keeping myself busy and interested in various activities. I knit, crochet, cross-stitch, sew, take digital photos, and read. I have traveled to Alaska and England and took Tauck Tours to Greece and Turkey, Western Canada, Eastern Canada, and New England.



Rachel at the Parthenon, Athens, Greece



Rachel at Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

My father died in 1970, and my mother died in 1997. Those two events seemed to set me adrift in the world, especially after my divorce. My family seemed to disappear except for my sister, Lynn Pille, who lives in California and has been married 44 years. She has four children and six grandchildren.



Rachel and Terry wintering in Arizona

I have three children. Jennifer is 41 and she and her husband, Jay, have two children, who are 15 and 13. My twins, Amy and Royce, are 38. Amy and her husband, Kevin, have three children, who are 11, 9, and 6. Royce and his wife, Sonja, have two children, who are 4 and 7 months. I now have as many grandchildren as my mother and father did.

Terry and I decided to winter in Arizona because we thought we were moving to a warm climate - NOT! It's COLD here! I'm a California girl - I like 85-degree weather! We golf, well, if you can call what I do golfing! Terry is a good golfer, though! We enjoy all of the amenities of retired life. We worked hard to get here, and we're enjoying the lah-dee-dah lifestyle! We have a Lhasa Apso named Daisy, a great guard dog. Hah!

Let's see, what else. I haven't grown taller; I'm still just 5'1" - okay, 5'-3/4". I am amazingly healthy, active, and happy-- not bad for someone 65!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE ANY OF THESE ALUMNI ARE?

PLEASE INCLUDE ADDRESSES, EMAILS AND PHONE NUMBERS

THANK YOU FOR ANY ASSISTANCE.

THERE HAVE BEEN MORE ADDED SINCE LAST ISSUE!

EMAIL TO okayjan@cox.net or rainymail@yahoo.com

MAIL to Cheryl Dillard, PO Box 2413, Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Cesaria	Accardo			Dorothy	Lake	
Josephine	Acero			Muriel	Lathrop	
Melvina	Andrieux			Robert	Lee	
Julianna	Ardelean	Parker		Leslie	Long	
Roberta	Armstrong			Elvira	Lopez	
Kathy	Arnold	Houlthouser		Glenda	Majors	
Larry	Bailey			Paul	Malenfant	
Linda	Beavers	Ponce		Janice	Mann	
Jeanne	Becker			Olivia	Mardis	
William	Behounek			George	Marquez	
Carol	Brown			Dennis	Miller	
Diane	Burns			Mary	Monson	
Harriet	Bush			Judith	Morski	
James	Butcher			Deanne	Noriega	
Carolyn	Caldwell	Bolda		Patricia	Paquette	
Gary	Campbell			Janet	Parker	
Tom	Campbell			Dianne	Peplin	
Joan	Carson			Jerome	Pollock	
Susan	Chambers			Bert	Putsey	
Lucy	Chavira			James	Ralley	
Marie	Chavira			Herbert	Reynolds	
Donna	Coholough	Flemens		Phil	Rix	
Herbert	Cross			Albert	Rocha	
Marion	Cullimore			Richard	Romero	
Richard	Davolos			Norma	Rust	
Judy	Deanes			Janet	Schnute	
Lorraine	Defosses			Mary	Sever	
Eleanore	Dominguez			Janice	Silvera	
Charlotte	Dotson	Ryan		Judith	Smith	
Joann	Duke			Sharon	Stroika	
Sheila	Dunlap			Eleanor	Sutherland	
Morris	Dye			Hedwig	Szatmari	
Ruth	Eckes			Shirley	Thorgerson	
Carrie	Farrell			Phyllis	Tom	
Roberta	Fike			Susie	Torrence	
Virginia	Flewell			Sharon	Treat	
Bill	Foss			Carol	Turner	Seiverson
Joy	Gammill	Zelvitz		Darlene	Villar	
Sheila	Garver			Virginia	Vukovich	
Donnarose	Gates			Johnny	Watley	
Barby	Gibson			James	Weber	
Mary	Guzman			Linda	Werner	
John	Haile			Charlotte	Wilson	
Irene	Helgrud			Pamela	Wise	
Peggy	Hofold			Elizabeth	Woods	

Robert	Hooper			Carolyn	Worthey	
Joann	Harrell			Robert	Wright	
Jerry	Jarett					
Kathlene	Jarrett					
Barbara	Juniper	Phillips				
Wayne	Keith					
Isabelle	Kelly					
Carol	Kirsch					
Bob	Klassen					
Claudia	Knight					
Jane	Kunkle					
Alice	Konopasek					